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(54) Title: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR siRNA INHIBITION OF HIF-1 ALPHA

(57) Abstract: RNA interference using small interfering RNAs which target HIF-1 alpha mRNA inhibit expression of the HIF-1 alpha gene. As HIF-1 alpha is a transcriptional regulator of VEGF, expression of VEGF is also inhibited. Control of VEGF production through siRNA-mediated down-regulation of HIF-1 alpha can be used to inhibit angiogenesis, in particular in diseases such as diabetic retinopathy, age related macular degeneration and many types of cancer.

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 30 August 2004 (30.08.04);
original claims 1-77 unchanged ; new claims 78-79 added ; (1 page)]

76. The method of claim 67, wherein the siRNA is administered to a subject in combination with another therapeutic method designed to treat the angiogenic disease.

77. The method of claim 76, wherein the angiogenic disease is cancer, and the siRNA is administered in combination with radiation therapy, chemotherapy or surgery.

78. The siRNA of claim 1, wherein the siRNA further comprises altered RNA.

79. The siRNA of claim 7, wherein one or more nucleotides in the siRNA are substituted with deoxyribonucleotides.